Meeting of the Board 8 September 2022

Update on action summary

Introduction

- 1. This paper provides an update to the Board on actions taken and planned actions to progress the agreed work plan as outlined in the action summary.
- 2. All other actions can be considered to be carried forward.

Completed actions

- 3. Action 26.05.2016 (3) to note that past service costs are potentially a risk to the cost cap valuation has been closed and moved as a new action over to the cost-effectiveness committee for the 2020 valuation.
- 4. Action 03.10.2019 (7) relating to the future of pensions administration has been closed due to there being no clear appetite for central administration from the sector.
- 5. Action 17.09.2020 (5.3) to obtain a legal view on outstanding abatement queries to incorporate into the draft guidance has been closed as <u>Informal abatement</u> <u>guidance for FRAs</u> was issued on 31 May 2022 with the May FPS Bulletin.
- Action 18.03.2021 (4.1.40) for the cost-effectiveness committee to undertake a review of the report commissioned by the Home Office from GAD on use of original 2016 assumptions for recalculation of the cost cap cost including McCloud has been closed as the 2016 valuation is now complete.
- 7. Action 24.03.2022 (9.9) for the Secretariat to invite software suppliers to present plans for retrospective remedy at June SAB meeting was completed at that meeting.
- Action 23.06.2022 (5.24) for the 2020 valuation assumptions to be considered by the cost-effectiveness committee was completed on 5 July 2022 at the last costeffectiveness committee meeting during which GAD presented the key valuation assumptions to the committee.
- 9. Action 23.06.2022 (8) (ii) For SAB member representatives to nominate a SAB vice-chair has been completed and Andrew Scattergood has been nominated as vice-chair for the Board.

Firefighters Pension Scheme (England) Scheme Advisory Board

Actions in progress

- 10. Action 04.10.2018 (5) for the LGA to establish a working group on behalf of the SAB with the purpose of considering ill-health regulations and processes is being progressed. Volunteers are being sought to join the working group. The terms of reference are going to be established in line with 2008 ill-health review group. Before the group takes effect though, the LGA would like to update the IQMP guidance originally written in 2012 and return this to the SAB for review. The LGA would also like to review the ill health certificates which currently exist for both active and deferred pension scheme members.
- 11. Action 10.12.2020 (5.1)-(1) to develop a central training log to evidence Board members' knowledge and understanding has begun, with training needs analysis forms being requested from Board members. Six forms have been received to date.
- 12. Action 10.12.2020 (5.1)-(2) to develop a modular training programme for SAB members is being progressed and the LGA have requested Board members to respond with their availability for induction and refresher SAB training. Ten responses were received. In order to maximise attendance, duplicate sessions will take place on 22 September 2022 13.30-16.30 and 10 October 2022 13.00-16.00.
- 13. Action 30.09.2021 (5.26) relates to the procurement of videos to explain remedy. The LGA is currently seeking a secondment to concentrate on communications and one priority of this role will be to progress this action.
- 14. Action 24.03.2022 (5.16). A working group is in the process of being created to provide governance and an oversight of the implementation of Matthews. A project implementation document has been drafted which includes proposed terms of reference for the group. An initial Matthews Technical Working Group meeting will take place with the Home Office during September 2022 and a SAB engagement session on Matthews is also scheduled for 19 September 2022.
- 15. Action 23.06.2022 (8):

(i) Board members/ advisers to check the SAB web page and advise the Secretariat of any changes which need to be made to their details. The LGA has received some amendments which have been updated on the fpsboard website.

(iii) Board members to nominate replacement committee members for each vacant position. The employer representative roles have been filled for both the cost-effectiveness committee and SMA committee. The practitioner representative role has also been filled for the SMA committee. Vacancies still exist for the LPB Effectiveness chair and SMA committee LPB representative.

(iv) Board members to complete training needs analysis document by 28 August 2022. The LGA has received some forms back which will help to tailor training accordingly.



Actions to note

16. Action 24.03.2022 (7.20) in relation to seeking information on the effect of the removal of restricted commutation for FPS 1992 Scotland will be able to be progressed once a clearer picture is known of the effects that this regulatory change has had in the longer term. GAD may be commissioned to provide assumptions on take-up rate and cost when this information is available.

Actions to progress

17. The action of 23.06.2022 (6.6) for the LGA to discuss the approach to contingent decisions with FSMC to ensure consistency of application is still to progress.

Board actions

18. The Board are asked to note the contents of this paper and to confirm agreement to the proposed approach to the ill health working group.

Board Secretary September 2022